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PEEL WEEKLY NEWS

Week of Oct. 17, 2018

MISSISSAUGA | BRAMPTON | CALEDON




Ex-Wynne minister admits Liberal Party too left wing, gets ripped by Ward 7 rival

by **Marco Patrone**

Mississauga Ward 7 candidate Dipika Damerla speaks to Marc Patrone on Sauga 960 AM's Peel News Talk program on Oct. 12, 2018. (PWN Staff Photo)

Defeated Liberal cabinet minister Dipika Damerla, now running for a council seat in Mississauga's Ward 7, says her party strayed too far left.

"Our party drifted too far left for my liking. I am definitely supportive of our party moving more back to the center," she told Peel News Talk on Sauga 960 AM.

As MPP for Mississauga East-Cooksville, Damerla served under Kathleen Wynne's Liberal government as Minister of Seniors Affairs

from 2016 to 2018.

She was swept away by the blue Tory wave June 7 when voters gave Doug Ford's PC Party a huge majority. The Liberals were almost wiped out, left with 7 seats after leading the province for 15 years.

As the party attempts to pick up the pieces, Damerla says it can start by shifting its political direction back to its traditional place.

"I will be among the first to say we need to move back more to the center.

I think Ontario deserves a centrist party. The Ontario Liberal Party has for long filled that space. That's where we need to get back to."

One of her opponents in the race for Ward 7, candidate Andrew Gassmann doesn't buy Damerla's claim to being a 'blue Liberal on some matters' after being a cabinet minister in the left-wing Wynne government.

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Campaigning on public dime "disrespectful", says Bowman

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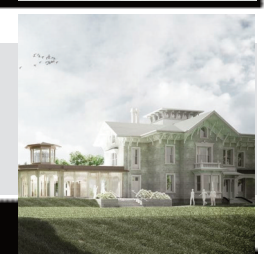
Steelheads earn top spot in central division

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New novel explores history of Alderlea community

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*Any reference to company or organization is merely for identification purposes and not to be construed as an endorsement.

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War of words in Ward 7 candidate race

Continued from Pg 1

"She was a cabinet minister in that party and was very responsible for what went on there."

He says it's far too late for Damerla to claim she disagreed with the 'left wing' direction of her party after it lost all but seven seats in June's election. "I don't think you can switch your political stance or political views in two months that quickly," Gassmann added.

In the leadup to last June's election, the Liberals ran on a platform that included "free prescription drugs for children, youth and seniors, free universal preschool child care and free college and university tuition for more students." Instead, Ontarians voted in

favour of lower taxes and Ford's promise to scrap the Liberal cap and trade program.

"It's going to take a lot of soul searching," Damerla said. "You need closure. People need to look back to see what we could've done right. Any government that's in power for a while faces that appetite for change. What was different this time was the extend of the vote against us," she said.

As the party struggles to find it's way back, Damerla says Liberals must be true to who they really are.

"If people want a left-wing party, there's the NDP. Liberals have to be at the center. That's who I am. My instinct is I am centrist. There are times I am a blue Liberal. Fiscal

matters, absolutely. I am an accountant. I worked in banking. Absolutely I believe in fiscal responsibility."

That said, Damerla downplays the Ford government's recent fiscal update pegging the budget deficit at \$15 billion, as

politics. The Auditor General had a different take on the pension accounting.

"It's been in the public realm for over a year. To

conflate that accounting dispute into a suggesting we had spent more than we said is politics and it's unfortunate. I think it was politics in the sense that it was clear from the very beginning that the difference between what the Ontario government tabled vs. what Ford is saying, was primarily an accounting dispute."

Damerla is now looking to win Ward 7, Nando Ianicca's vacant seat. She says her Liberal ties are not a detriment given her longstanding commitment to working closely with the community.

She's says she's always made a point to following up on the concerns of residents and adds that won't change if she's elected councillor.



Andrew Gassmann (above) is one of the twelve candidates running in Ward 7 for the municipal election, which will take place this Monday, Oct. 22. (Submitted Photo)

Campaigning on public dime 'disrespectful of taxpayers,' says Brampton councillor

Councillors campaigning 'on the public dime' are not respecting taxpayers, says Brampton Councillor Jeff Bowman.

"I would not do that because I have respect for the taxpayer," Bowman told Peel News Talk on Sauga 960 AM.

"I took a weeklong vacation this year. I'm taking the final two weeks vacation so I can campaign. That's the way I do it. I've got integrity and I respect the taxpayers," he said.

With the municipal election campaign coming down to its final days, councillors remain on the payroll as they knock on doors and shake hands, hoping to keep their job after election day on Oct. 22.

Bowman, who was first elected in 2014, is concerned about the optics of campaigning on the public dime instead of being fully engaged in their duties as councillor.

"There are other councillors out there campaigning. A lot of them will say, 'I got my phone with me,' It's totally up to them. That's what they've chosen to do. I don't have an issue with that. I'm concerned about my campaign and how my electorate reacts to voting me in for another four years."

Councillor Martin Medeiros is campaigning as well, but says his work on behalf of constituents continues as normal.

"I can't speak for him (Bowman), but I've taken constituent calls and duties. This past Friday, we had a delegation from Portugal and the Mayor and myself received the delegation. I've been dealing with constituents as normal." Medeiros says he's maintained continuous contact with his assistant throughout the campaign.

"At my campaign office, I get lots of residents

come in for city issues. I work with (my assistant) and try to keep that separation between what we do from a campaign perspective and in constituency calls. If during a campaign, you're not doing your job, constituents will punish you for that. If they're trying to deal with constituency issues and you say, 'I can't help because I'm in my campaign period,' you're putting yourself at jeopardy. You will be punished by residents accordingly," he said.

Council has not met since last month, but the Mayor could decide to call a council meeting next week if she wanted to.

Incumbent councillors are seen as having a big advantage over challengers at election time. However, choosing to focus on council work instead of campaigning in the run up to voting day could be seen as a disadvantage to a sitting councillor.

"There are a lot of people who say that's a disadvantage. If it is a disadvantage, maybe we need to change things a little bit to say, maybe we need in the coming elections to say, three weeks

out from the election, council is disbanded and we don't get paid," Bowman said.

He says that the idea of cutting pay for three weeks before an election may not be very popular for councillors who would then lose money at campaign time, but Bowman says it makes sense from a taxpayer's standpoint.

"That gives us time to go out and campaign, not being on the taxpayer dollar. There's a lot of things we could do to make it more fair for everybody and the taxpayer," he said.



Brampton Wards 3&4 incumbent Jeff Bowman speaks to Peel News Talk on Sauga 960 AM on Oct. 12, 2018. (PWN Staff Photo)

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All roads lead to this.

After a hard-fought campaign that has seen more than 150 candidates vie for a coveted spot on councils throughout the region, the municipal election campaign enters its final days with final rallies, voting opportunities and the last few debates between challengers.

More than 1000 residents and community advocates turned out for a rally supporting incumbent Brampton Mayor Linda Jeffrey, hosted by the Concerned Citizens for Brampton (bottom). "In eight days, voters will have an important decision to make," said Jeffrey, who was flanked by local MPs and MPPs. "Do they want to go forward or backwards?"

At the same time, mayoral challenger Patrick Brown picked up an endorsement from former Ontario Premier Bill Davis and hosted a community rally with Wards 3&4 regional challenger John Sanderson and local incumbent Jeff Bowman, among others (upper-left).

There was a flurry of activity in south Mississauga this week, including multiple candidates' debates in Ward 1, including an all-candidates' debate which will be hosted by the Lakeview Ratepayers' Association tonight (Oct. 17) at the Mississauga Seniors' Centre, located at 1389 Cawthra Road.

Incumbent Mayor Bonnie Crombie (left-centre) also took the time to vote in one of the

advance polls held at Port Credit Secondary School.

Incumbent Caledon Mayor Allan Thompson (leftmost-centre) took to local homes and businesses this past weekend for a series of meet-and-greets with local residents, alongside Ward 2 regional incumbent Johanna Downey and former MPP Vic Dhillon.

At the same time, mayoral challenger Barb Shaughnessy spoke to residents at a contentious community debate about a proposed asphalt plant in Coleraine, along with campaigning in Caledon East. "Caledon needs a Mayor who will be there for them, somebody who will take their concerns seriously," said Shaughnessy.

Election day will be held this Monday, Oct. 22. Residents eligible to vote will be voting for the Offices of Mayor, Ward and/or Regional Councillor and School Board Trustee.

For voting information, as well as voting locations and frequently asked questions, visit the appropriate website -- www.brampton.ca/brampton-votes, www.mississaugavotes.ca or caledon.ca/en/townhall.

Peel Weekly News will publish a special post-election edition on Tuesday, Oct. 23, featuring final results from the campaign and photos from the campaign trail.



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Council to explore term limits after election, says Starr

by Marc Patrone

If re-elected, Ward 6 Councillor Ron Starr says he'll push for an "open and honest" look at term limits.

A discussion could lead to "some formulation of ideas that, 'can we do it, should we do it.'" Starr told Peel News Talk on Sauga 960 AM.

"That's why a real open honest discussion needs to be done, just to get all the facts out, to check with our peers to see if they've had the same discussions."

Limits would restrict the number of four-year terms a councillor could serve. Proponents of the idea, like Ward One candidate Sharmila Setaram, say term limits would help rejuvenate council and help bring in more diversity.

"Do you need to be on council 20 years, or 30 years?" she asked. "How do we also allow for that mentorship? So when people hear 'term limits', they get scared but we shouldn't. We should think of it in terms of innovation, renewal and mentorship."

Starr isn't sure how many of his colleagues on council would support the idea. "The biggest thing - will councillors vote for it. They're voting for their own positions, basically. That's something that needs to come out and see how we would handle it," he said.

The downside of term limits is the loss of valuable experience. Consider the decades of experience former Mayor Hazel McCallion brought to Mississauga. Change for the sake of bringing in a new face doesn't guarantee better service.

Ward 10 Councillor Sue McFadden says "it can take two or sometimes three terms before a municipal politician truly understands the ins and outs of City Hall well enough to give constituents their best."

It's not the first time Starr has raised the issue at Mississauga council.

"I brought it up last term with several of the councillors and the ones

that have been in for a long time say something to the effect that 'we're doing a good job, we deserve to be re-elected and the people appreciate that.'"

Sometimes, councillors continue to run despite having little enthusiasm for community involvement.

"The other side is, what happens if you have people who have four, five, six, ten terms and aren't performing at the end. It's not fair to the public. That's what I asked," Starr said.

A discussion could mean asking staff to produce a report for council to consider before moving ahead with a vote.

"We have the ability as councillors to bring up new business and under new business you can ask for a report. You can find out what happened in other areas with respect to term limits and get ideas from council because it's council that votes on it."

That's why Starr believes it's important to see what other jurisdic-

tions are doing and weigh both the benefits and detriments of doing it here.

"We can take a look at what's going on in the U.S. They have term limits. They're forced to

change. Is it good or bad? I think we all have our own opinions."

Unlike some of his colleagues, Starr is no career politician. He was elected in 2010 to represent Ward 6.

Before that, he was president of Deanlee Management Inc., a family owned development, planning, building and land use consultant firm.



Mississauga Ward 6 incumbent Ron Starr speaks with Peel News Talk's Marc Patrone on Sauga 960 AM on Oct. 12, 2018. (PWN Staff Photo)

Brampton sign war the "dirtiest campaign I've seen," says council challenger

Former Brampton councillor John Sanderson, running to reclaim Ward 3 and 4 from incumbent Martin Medeiros says this campaign is the nastiest he's been involved in.

"This one here is probably the dirtiest one I've ever been involved in. The opponent is coming out and doing stuff I've never ever seen before in politics in Brampton," Sanderson told Peel News Talk on Sauga 960 AM.

Sanderson says the dirty stuff includes having signs damaged and moved. "I've had some signs relocated. I've had some taken down. I've had signs put in front of my signs. That's not the way I play it. I play a nice, level fair game."

Sanderson lays the blame for the 'nasty' campaign at the feet of incumbent Martin Medeiros.

"Some of the comments I've been hearing at the door, that they're making about me. Comments I'm hearing like, 'I'm too old,' I'll take the city backwards. The people of Brampton know me better than that. They know I'm here to move Brampton forward. Somebody needs to know who they're challenging because I know a lot of people in Brampton and when you hear comments that come back like that, it's just unacceptable."

Medeiros says if anyone is to blame for 'dirty' politics, it is Sanderson himself.

"When he talks about this being the nastiest campaign, that's the way he does his politics from day one so I don't know what he's complaining about."

One of the main irritants for Medeiros are the signs asking voters in Wards 3

and 4 to re-elect Sanderson.

Medeiros is the regional councillor for the Wards having been first elected in 2014. Sanderson was the regional councillor there from 2006 to 2014 before stepping down to run for mayor, a campaign he lost to Linda Jeffrey.

Some residents are confused about whether Sanderson or Medeiros is being re-elected.

"What I get all the time," says Medeiros, "is, people tell me at the door, 'why this re-election, I thought you were the councillor.' I am but that's not what they're being told at the door. I can't speak to what nastiness on my side. I can tell you on Ward 4 and Ward 3, my signs have been damaged. My signs have been taken out. I know from many of my residents (that) have called me about,

Sanderson signs have been put on their yard without them knowing, especially Portuguese people who don't speak English."

As far as key campaign issues go, Sanderson says crime must be tackled better than it has been so far.

"It's a huge issue in Peel. We need to do something about the crime and just adding more police officers is not going to do it. We need to get to the root cause. We need to keep the kids busy and keep them out of trouble."

He's pushing for a return to community policing stations.

"Our police officers are our friends. We need to get them out there. We need to bring back community-policing stations where we have satellite stations in the community. That was the best thing we ever in around

Peel. It's all looked at in terms of how much it cost in order to do that. I would argue it cost far less to have community police stations than it does all the court costs and etc. we're going

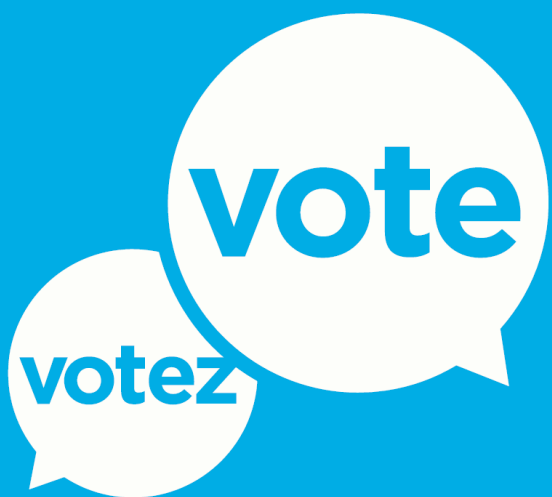
through."

The battle for Wards 3 and 4 in Brampton promises to be one of the most closely watched and hotly contested campaigns leading up to the Oct. 22 vote.



John Sanderson speaks to Peel News Talk on Sauga 960 AM on Oct. 12, 2018. (PWN Staff Photo)

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Municipal Election Day

Monday, October 22



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Coyote sightings growing concern in Ward 1, says Butt

A rash of recent coyote sightings has left residents growing concerned about public safety, says a candidate running for Ward 1 in Mississauga.

"I've been hearing about it quite a bit from local residents... the sightings are up quite a bit," Brad Butt said during an interview earlier this week on Peel News Talk on Sauga 960 AM.

Coyotes have been a hot topic in recent months, with politicians in other cities cautioning residents to steer clear of the wild animals, which tend to appear at dawn and dusk and typically hunt rodents and rabbits.

During the interview, Butt brought up a number of reports he'd heard about sightings in and around Ward 1, including Jack Darling Park.

"We want to deal with this kind of thing in a humane way," said Butt. "I don't know what the specific answer is, but I do believe the City could be more

proactive."

While they do not pose a significant threat to humans, the City of Mississauga recommends that residents steer clear of them, along with recommending the storage of food, garbage and attractants indoors and not leaving children or pets unattended.

Mississauga is not the only city that has had to deal with coyote sightings in residential neighbourhoods.

In 2017, Brampton saw numerous reports of the animals in Wards 3&4, with more than 100 separate sightings.

At the time, local councillor Jeff Bowman spoke to Peel Weekly News about the need to create a trapping and re-locating program as a possible step.

"I would prefer to see if they could relocate them somehow," Bowman said in July 2017. "I know they can't relocate them when they're young or they can relocate them in groups. That means you've got

to try and trap them somehow, they're pretty smart animals," Bowman said.

While warning signs were put up to notify families not to leave their children or pets unattended, Bowman said that trying to enforce a city bylaw pro-

hibiting the feeding of coyotes was difficult.

"Education's great, trying to pass a bylaw saying it's illegal to feed them but we'd have to catch them feeding them in order to press charges against them. I don't know that the answer is, but it's

getting to the point where they're going to keep multiplying. It's inevitable that something is going to happen," he said.

Butt said that he has spoken with city staff about the issue, and agrees that it needs to be dealt with sooner

than later.

"I think they're doing the best they can do within their jurisdiction and their abilities, but at the end of the day, more and more people are raising this as a problem," said Butt.



Photo Courtesy of Pixabay

Legalizing pot doesn't make it ok, Catholic Church tells faithful

Just because it's legal, doesn't mean you should smoke pot, warns the Catholic Church.

Canadians can legally consume cannabis products starting Oct. 17, but Catholics are being warned such products are not ok just because the government says they are.

Catholics taking in Sunday morning's church service at

St. Francis of Assisi in Mississauga were told, "the massive increase in cannabis use that will accompany its legalization will not produce a more just and humane society, but will only exacerbate or multiply problems already widespread in society."

According to the national census bureau, 42.5 per cent of Canadians say they've

tried marijuana. Around 16 per cent have used it over the past three months.

Advocates for its legalization argue making it legal will not lead to an explosion in use.

Rev. Bernard Vellozo told Peel Weekly News, "as much as it may be legal from a secular point of view because the government is legalizing it, doesn't make it

morally acceptable from the church's teaching point of view."

The Church has long opposed legalization of cannabis, saying it will worsen problems "including mental illness, crime, unemployment, family breakdown, injuries and fatalities resulting from impaired driving, and increased addiction to "harder" drugs along with associated problems resulting from overdose."

Rev. Vellozo says the Church's objections are on moral grounds. "Obviously, in the Church we teach what is moral and scriptural; the basis on which we live our lives. We're not concerned with what's legal. We're concerned with the fact that it's morally unacceptable.

It's one of those cases church teachings diverge from what the state sanctions as fine. "Like for example, even though there's no law on abortion in Canada, it is legal to go and

have an abortion but it doesn't make it ok for Catholics to agree with that. That's the secular law. Our law that we are governed by is the law of God, which says taking any human life is unacceptable."

The Church makes an exception for those who use cannabis for strictly medicinal purposes.

Rev. Vellozo says the Church has a responsibility to speak out when it comes to societal issues it sees as important and this is one of them.

"Obviously people live in society more than they come to church. They come to church for one hour per week. So when society is saying, 'well, everyone is doing pot, what's wrong with it,' we say it doesn't matter if everyone is doing it, you still have to follow what is right."

After the Trudeau government passed Bill C-45, The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops expressed

its dismay in a press release.

"Given the numerous known risks cannabis use poses to human society and human health (physical, mental and emotional), it is lamentable that the federal government has decided to facilitate the provision and use of an addictive substance that will have disastrous effects for so many people."

According to a federal government information mail out delivered to Canadians last week, "The Cannabis Act is designed to better protect the health and safety of Canadians, to keep cannabis out of the hands of youth and to keep profits out of the hands of criminals and organized crime."

You must be of legal age to use such products (18/19 or older, depending on your province or territory). The act includes "strict penalties" for selling or providing cannabis to youth under the legal age.



Photo Courtesy of Pixabay

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Analysis

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Facebook purge of political content is a fundamental assault against democracy: Ontario Civil Liberties Group

The Ontario Civil Liberties Association (OCLA) is concerned that Facebook has actuated a massive purge of accounts that feature independent journalism and political content, for the reasons given of alleged spamming, profit seeking, misrepresentation of identity, “misleading users” and to “keep our community safe and respectful”.

The Facebook accounts of the New York Times, the Washington Post, and the Globe and Mail were untouched, which suggests that Facebook’s motives are not as it claims. The larger media sites are known to be biased, to have political and establishment ties and to mislead by omission and spin. One need only consult the landmark research of Herman and Chomsky.

The Facebook purge of some “800 pages and accounts” is the largest overt purge of political content since the advent of the social media giants, and it constitutes deplatforming

of ordinary citizens on an unprecedented scale.

For example, the renowned Canadian site “Press for Truth” was affected, mere days after it published an unparalleled in-depth interview with Maxime Bernier.

The purged accounts have tens and hundreds of thousands of followers, and are known to have a significant influence in domestic politics.

Both Left and Right accounts were affected, apparently barring a simple partisan motive. Likewise, OCLA does not believe that the purge is motivated by a corporate civic duty for public safety or by a desire to optimize the quest for truth.

Rather, OCLA believes that the purged sites represent a “threat of democracy” rather than a “threat to democracy”, and that the purge is a test for eliminating competitors of the dominant establishment-controlled media.

OCLA notes that Facebook and the social media

giants have been given access to the public internet both through the infrastructure largely paid for by public funds and through the state-run legal structure of corporate law that allows their profitable operation in the public sphere.

As such, these corporations must be bound by the principles that underlie the constitutions and charters of our free and democratic societies. Corporate censorship against ordinary users cannot be a design characteristic. There must be a high threshold preventing censorship, with the onus to prove the necessity for any censorship lying squarely with the entity that seeks to censor.

There is an urgent systemic need for limitations so that the social media giants cannot at their discretion censor individual expression. What the social media giants are constantly pressured by powerful interests to achieve amounts to using monopolistic market and establish-

ment forces to deprive the proverbial pamphleteers of paper, ink and silkscreens, and access to public venues and doorways.

It amounts to blacklisting books from libraries, bookstores and coffee shops. It must be stopped. This is a shameful episode of Western civilization.

The OCLA vigorously ad-

vocates for authentic and unqualified freedom of expression of individuals, on all topics and in every form, in accordance with the right to free expression enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The OCLA also advocates for unimpeded civil liberties and civil rights of all persons, in dealings

with public and private institutions and corporations.

The OCLA is not affiliated with the Canadian Civil Liberties Association (CCLA) or the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association (BCCLA). All three associations are separate and distinct.



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Brampton MPPs push for hospital funding

Provincial reps for the NDP are pushing to secure funding for a new hospital and expanded healthcare services in Brampton.

The announcement came Tuesday morning during a press conference held in front of Brampton Civic Hospital, in which local MPPs said there is “too much at stake” for the healthcare system in the city.

“We’re a fast-growing community... but we need so much more,” said NDP deputy leader Sara Singh, who spoke at the event alongside fellow Brampton-North MPP Kevin Yarde and Brampton-East MPP Guratan Singh.

The NDP moved to pass a motion at Queen’s Park Tuesday afternoon for that funding to be guaranteed in next year’s spring budget.

Brampton Civic Hospital opened in 2007 with 608 funded beds, but has come under fire since then from patients’ groups and politicians for its overcrowding.

Families in Brampton have experienced constant backups in healthcare services, including crowded

emergency rooms and patients waiting in hallways for procedures, sometimes for days or weeks at a time.

As such, the need to put additional funding into place to construct a new hospital in the city and expand medical services at the neighbouring Peel Memorial Hospital has never been greater.

“Brampton has been ground zero for hallway medicine here in the

province... we can do better,” she said.

Over the last year, Peel Memorial’s Urgent Care Centre only received funding for 6,250 visits, but a large majority of the overall patients - 61,590 - were unfunded. The centre expects this year’s unfunded patient visits to top 67,750.

Additionally, Brampton Civic spent 114 days in “Code Gridlock” in 2017, which occurs when more

patients are left waiting for admission than there were open beds available.

The situation is unacceptable, said Andrea Horwath, who was scheduled to speak at Tuesday’s press conference but was unable to attend.

“Brampton families deserve so much better than the hallway medicine, crowded emergency rooms and painfully long waits they’ve been suffering

through,” Horwath said in a statement Tuesday afternoon.

“There’s a better way forward. It starts with the immediate Phase 2 funding to expand Peel Memorial Centre, then building a new hospital for the growing Brampton community.”

Horwath says that hospital funding was frozen and cut during the previous government, causing waits to get longer and hallway med-

icine cases to pile up. The NDP hasn’t heard any information from Premier Doug Ford, which has caused concern among the party that the situation will get even worse.

“You can’t fix decades of cuts to hospital funding with even deeper cuts,” Horwath said. “It’s time to invest in Brampton families, and the care they deserve.”



Peel School Board creates Regional Skilled Trades program

A Mississauga high school will soon play host to Peel District School Board’s inaugural Skilled Trades program.

Beginning next September, West Credit Secondary School will host the program, which combines career exploration opportunities and experiential learning to help students meet the demands for skilled trade demands locally, provincially and federally.

“In Peel, we’re committed to ensuring that every student receives high-quality education with many opportunities to achieve their personal goals, and build on their strengths and interests,” superintendent of curriculum and instruction support services Adrian Graham said Tuesday morning. “This is why we’re excited to expand the number of Regional Learning Choices Programs offered and try to help meet the growing demand for skilled trades workers.”

Students who enroll in the program can specialize in a number of trades preparation courses, including green industry, hospitality and tourism, manufacturing technology, child development and more.

“We’re excited to open our doors to students from across the Peel region and to showcase the importance of the skilled trades,” says West Credit principal Crissa Hill.

On Oct. 25, from 5 to 8 p.m., families can attend a Regional Skilled Trades Information Session and Skilled Trades Showcase event to learn more about the program, view the state-of-the-art facility, and meet with staff and industry professionals.

Applications for the programs will open on Nov. 5 at 12:01 a.m. and close on Nov. 21 at 3 p.m.

For more information, visit peelschools.org/regionalprograms.

Brampton regional candidate gets major endorsement

Brampton Wards 7&8 regional candidate Bruce Marshall has received a “star” endorsement from a major broadcast veteran.

National news anchor Brad Griffen, formerly of CTV News, made the endorsement for Marshall Tuesday afternoon.

“My career which included covering local, national and international politics, led me to value the work of good, hard-working local politicians,” Griffen said. “They are the individuals that have the greatest potential to en-

hance the lives of thousands of families.”

In the statement, Griffen said that his years on-air brought him to the conclusion that cities such as Brampton need people who are “honest, no nonsense, straight shooters, who listen, collaborate and get things done.”

“I’m grateful and overwhelmed,” said Marshall. “In debates, at the doors and in all our communications, the campaign has been clear: a lot more gets done for people when we sincerely work together.”



Auto insurance bill talked up by Brampton MPP

Brampton-East MPP Guratan Singh introduced a bill this week that he says will end automobile insurance discrimination in the GTA, lowering prices for thousands of GTA families.

Singh’s bill amends the Insurance Act to prevent insurance companies from charging GTA residents different insurance rates solely because of where they live within the region — or face the penalties set out by the Insurance Act.

“Drivers in the Peel region and other parts of the GTA pay significantly higher auto insurance rates than others in the same region, for no good reason,” said Singh. “In the last year alone, my community of Brampton has seen premiums increase at a rate nearly five times higher than the provincial average, and the average Brampton

driver’s annual premiums are nearly \$1,000 more than the average driver in much of Toronto.”

The current government has taken things from “bad to worse,” said Singh, pointing to a nine per cent insurance premium which was passed this past July.

“GTA families are being ripped off to the tune of thousands a year, merely because of their postal codes. It’s wrong, and it has to stop. It really doesn’t have to be this way.”

Singh’s bill will require the Superintendent of the Financial Services Commission of Ontario to refuse to approve risk classification systems that don’t consider the GTA as a single geographic area, and prohibit insurers from entering into contracts with insurance rates based on such a risk classification system.

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On October 22



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PROJECTS IN WARD 8
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- Bruce Reynolds Park redevelopment
- Brookmeade Park Tennis Court redevelopment
- Fowler Drive Basketball Court
- Pathway/Multi-use Trail Redevelopments: Pheasant Run, South Common, Crawford Green, Glen Erin
- Succeeded in re-zoning the 5 acre parcel of the former Pheasant Run Public School, now in the process of becoming a Community Park
- South Common Community Center splash pad and Reception area
- Sawmill Valley Trail Development and Site Remediation at former Winding Lane Bird Sanctuary
- Trappers Green Park / Playground redevelopment
- Ridgeway Community Multi-use Court

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PEEL WEEKLY NEWS BUSINESS

Mississauga-based Japanese company boosts presence with facility expansion

by Alex Gregory

A Japanese aerospace company with a major presence in Mississauga is going to get an even bigger boost - thanks to a planned 206,000 square-foot expansion planned for next year.

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Canada Aerospace (MHICA) made the announcement, signalling their intent to help create more local jobs and invest into the city's economy.

The company's growth since moving to Mississauga twelve years ago has been consistently supported, said MHICA CEO Mike McCarthy, pointing to the role the City played in helping them establish their first location in Meadowvale in 2007

and their second facility in 2012 at Northwest Drive.

"Our latest expansion is the result of our continued reliance upon Mississauga's strong business culture, and its educated and energetic talent, to bring us the employees that we need," McCarthy said Tuesday in a statement. "MHICA is proud to help lead the growth and strength of the aerospace industry in Mississauga."

The city plays host to more than 100 Japanese companies in the city, and has recognized several of them over the past year as part of Canada's 90th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Mississauga's aerospace cluster is also home to many of the world's leading companies, including four of the top 25 global aerospace companies.

The city's aerospace cluster has been recog-

nized as a top attractor of aerospace manufacturers, airlines and support services.

"We are absolutely thrilled that MHICA has chosen to once again expand in Mississauga, home of Canada's

largest aerospace cluster," Mayor Bonnie Crombie said in a statement Tuesday.

"MHICA continues to be a vital part of our aerospace community, and we're grateful that they continue to feel at

home in Mississauga."

The investment will help create more jobs and boost the economy, and is proof of the company's continuing commitment to the city, she said.



Pilot project caps Caledon's Waste Prevention Week



A waste retrofit pilot project to help reduce the amount of waste in landfills is capping off a week of waste prevention events hosted by the Town of Caledon.

The Town announced earlier this week that it is working to help reduce waste by promoting composting and recycling, as well as reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill.

The Waste Retrofit Pilot Project is aimed at exploring how and where to reduce waste, and is targeting a 10 per cent waste diversion rate.

"It's great to see staff and the community making the commitment to reduce

their waste footprint," said Mayor Allan Thompson. "Properly sorting compost and recyclable materials lessens the amount of waste that ends up in our landfills and is one way we can help protect the environment."

The pilot project included a baseline waste audit, the installation of 32 new waste bins, signage, education for Town Hall staff and visitors, and a post-project waste audit.

The new signage advises staff and visitors as to which landfill, recycling and organic materials are acceptable in the Region of Peel.

Results from the project will help inform the five-

year Corporate Greenhouse Gas Reduction Framework (2019-2024), which will include strategies to reduce corporate waste and potentially expanding the retrofit project to other Town facilities.

Diverting the amount of waste going to the landfill will reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with Ontario's waste sector. According to the 2013 Caledon Community GHG Inventory, waste accounts for 10% of local emissions.

Waste Reduction Week is recognized nationwide, and aims to educate and engage Canadians to reduce, reuse, recycle and compost materials before they become garbage in the landfill.

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Outgoing Peel Regional Chair honored with award

Peel Region's outgoing chair was honored late last week with a major award recognizing his many years of service to the community.

Frank Dale received the Melvin Jones Award from Lions Clubs International during a special ceremony at Peel Region's head offices in

Brampton.

The award is named for Melvin Jones, the founder of Lions Clubs International, who helped grow the organization into a worldwide group that promotes volunteerism and community involvement.

(L - R): Lion Manny Castellino (Lions Farmers Market Manager), Past District Governor Lion Peter Hammond, Peel Region Chair Frank Dale, Lion Clubs International District A-711 Governor Lion Jeffrey Friedman, Lion Farida Alexander, and Lion Bill Pether.



Peel Police open new headquarters

More than 100 guests, retired policemen and community partners came together to cut the ribbon on Peel Police's newest addition to the force last week.

The Peel Regional Police Headquarters and Museum, located at 7150 Mississauga Road, was unveiled Friday - a 92,000 square-foot modern building that is home to more than 230 employees.

The building will be the official home of the Chief's Management Group and a number of administrative bureaus including Corpo-

rate Communications, Corporate Planning and Research, Human Resources, Finance, Facilities Management, and Professional Standards, among others.

Chief Jennifer Evans, who announced her retirement over the weekend, cut the ribbon alongside dignitaries and her fellow officers.

The new building provides the force with the extra space needed to improve efficiency, via housing a number of bureaus together under one roof that share decision making duties improving service

delivery.

The first Peel Regional Police Headquarters opened 44 years ago on December 31, 1973, at 168 Kennedy Road South in the City of Brampton.

On October 30, 1981 it moved to 7750 Hurontario Street in Brampton; that building was since renamed the Sir Robert Peel Center.

Also present at the ribbon-cutting ceremony were members of the force's Police Services Board, along the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services the Hon. Michael Tibollo.



Safety a priority as Brampton prepares for cannabis legalization

Ahead of today's legalization of recreational cannabis, the City of Brampton is asking residents to put safety first when using or in possession of recreational cannabis.

Brampton Fire and Emergency Services data shows that 31 per cent of fatal fires in the home over the past five years were caused by improperly discarded smoking material.

Smoking of cannabis will be regulated the same as tobacco, and cannabis users need to be responsible for safe use to protect themselves, their families, minors, pets, and property.

"Community safety is our priority. This includes promoting fire safety concerns related to cannabis use, preparation and growing, as well as enforcement of use of cannabis in public spaces," Mayor Linda Jeffrey said in a statement Tuesday evening.

"The City will also continue to work with our partners and with the Provincial and Federal governments to ensure community safety remains top of mind."

Cannabis users are advised not to cook while under the influence. Residents are also reminded not to grow beyond the legal limit of four cannabis plants per household, and not to make any modification to their electrical system or use high heat lamps as they pose a serious fire risk.

Smoking of cannabis is prohibited in the same places where the smoking of tobacco is prohibited, e.g. enclosed public places/workplaces, within 20 metres of children's playgrounds and play areas within parks, public sporting areas (e.g., splash pads, soccer fields) and in all bars and restaurant patios.

The City and Region of Peel said Tuesday that

they will look into complaints about smoking on City property such as municipal buildings, recreation centres, transit shelters, and in proximity to children's play areas, including within parks.

"As recreational cannabis becomes legal, we have to work together as a community in ensuring that our neighbourhoods are safe and enjoyable for everyone. Whether in public spaces or using cannabis in your home, we ask that residents are mindful of their safety and that of the community as a whole," said Community Services Chair Michael Palleschi.

Residents can report these concerns by calling 311 or emailing 311@brampton.ca. Only call 911 in the event of an emergency.

The new City Council (effective Dec. 1, 2018) will decide whether or not cannabis retail es-

tablishments should be allowed in Brampton. The Province of Ontario requires this decision to be made by Jan. 22, 2019.

City staff will be creating a "for information" report about cannabis retail stores, to be presented to the new Council on Dec. 5, 2018, to

help them make an informed decision.

At the end of this month, the City will issue a public poll to gauge residents' opinion about Brampton opting in/out of retail cannabis stores.

Results of the poll will be provided as part of

the report to Council to consider as part of their opt in/opt out decision.

Cannabis possession limits are a maximum of 30 grams (about one ounce) of dried cannabis in public.

There is a maximum of four plants per residence (not per person).



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Authorized by Miles Roque for Councillor Ward 1.

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Brampton boasts “AAA” outlook

Standard & Poor's (S&P) affirmed the City of Brampton's Triple 'A' rating last week.

Along with the credit rating, S&P has issued a 'Stable' outlook for the City of Brampton. Triple 'A' is the highest credit rating a municipality can receive.

According to Standard & Poor's (S&P), the rating reflects the City's solid finan-

cial management.

"This strong rating reflects the City's continued focus on good municipal governance and accountability to residents," said Mayor Linda Jeffrey on Friday. "Brampton is well-positioned to move forward in making the necessary investments to transform our Downtown, and beyond that, build the connected,

inclusive, innovative and bold Brampton described in the 2040 Vision.”

According to S&P, the rating is due to a number of factors, including strong financial management practices (continuing focus on improving control systems, and transparent, easy-to-access disclosure), exceptional liquidity and a strong economy.



Mississauga's World Vision responds to new report

A new report outlining how to end child labour in Canadian supply chains needs to be adopted, a Mississauga-based advocacy organization said Tuesday.

World Vision Canada, which is headquartered on World Drive in the northern end of Mississauga, made the comments regarding Canada's Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development's new report, "A Call to Action: Ending the Use of All Forms of Child Labour in Supply Chains."

The report offers solutions, including legislative action, that can be adopted to address child and forced labour in Canadian supply chains.

"This report reconfirms that it's time for the Government of Canada to introduce legislation to address the risk of child and forced labour in our supply chains," said World Vision Canada

president Michael Messenger.

"After hearing children around the world, I can say with conviction that child labour is also a Canadian issue. There are at least 1,200 Canadian companies importing goods that may have been made by child or forced labourers overseas. It has to stop."

Canadian imports of "risky products" now total \$34 billion, a 31 per cent increase over the past five years.

Messenger said the organization wants the federal government to

formally commit to working with civil society, trade unions, investors, and the private sector to design the right supply chain legislation for Canada.

"Consumers, companies and governments should all play a part in addressing Canadian links to this global problem," said Messenger. "Canada

needs to commit to federal supply chain legislation or risk falling behind on promoting responsible business and human rights including the protection of children from exploitation and harm."



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Putting Ward 7 Residents First



ON OCTOBER 22ND



ELECT

BRAD BUTT
COUNCILLOR
FOR WARD 1

A person wearing a blue plaid shirt is shown from the chest up, with their hands clasped in front of them. They are standing in front of a light-colored brick wall. The image is used as a background for a text overlay.

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TO GET THINGS DONE**

Authorized by the CFO of the Brad Butt Campaign

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PEEL

WEEKLY NEWS

SPORTS

Oct. 17, 2018 | PEEL WEEKLY NEWS | **SPORTS** 19



Beast split exciting season-opening series

by **Benedict Rhodes**

The Brampton Beast played their first two games of the regular season on the weekend, winning one and dropping one to the Manchester Monarchs.

Both games featured lots of goals and late drama in the newly-named CAA Centre (formerly the Powerade Centre).

On Saturday, the Beast fought back from a 4-1

deficit to tie the game at 4-4, but after a late goal by The Monarchs, were desperate for an equalizer.

With just over a minute left, and the Brampton net empty, the extra attacker David Pacan scored to send the Beast to overtime, but it took a shootout goal by Nathan Todd to seal the win for Brampton.

Sunday wasn't as fruit-

ful for the Beast despite another dramatic comeback attempt, as Macoy Erkamps' late equalizer for Brampton was cancelled out by Nick Moutrey's winner for the Monarchs with just 53 seconds left in the game, with a 4-3 final score.

Brampton's next game is away against the rival Adirondack Thunder on Saturday night. Puck drop is at 7 p.m.



Photo Courtesy of Brampton Beast

Admirals and Bombers help Salvation Army with “Coats for Kids”



Steelheads earn top spot in central division

by **Brendan Lang**

The Mississauga Steelheads hockey have gotten off to a hot start this year, and they carried that same momentum into the weekend.

Winners of four straight, Mississauga looked to keep the good times rolling at home against Hamilton last Friday.

Right out of the gates, the goals came quickly by Mackenzie Entwistle for Hamilton and by Thomas Harley for Mississauga.

With the game tied, Ryan McLeod looked to put the Trout on top but the play was reviewed and subsequently disallowed. The first ended in a tied score - however, the Steelheads held a sizable lead on the shot chart.

In the second, the scor-

ing was once again opened by a Bulldog to put them ahead 2-1. Just like in the first, though, the Steelheads weren't down for long as Kean Washkurak tied the score at two. The second period ended with the score still deadlocked.

The third period was just as drama-filled as the first two.

Mississauga scored the first goal of the frame with Nicholas Canade giving the Fish the lead.

Hamilton would bounce back to tie the score at three, but Mississauga's Michael Little provided a late goal with over a minute left to power them to their fifth straight win.

In game two of the home and home with Hamilton in the FirstOntario Centre,

Mississauga would try for their sixth straight victory.

Those aspirations were slowed from the outset as Hamilton would strike for four unanswered goals within the first period.

The second frame provided no scoring, and the third period would see Steelheads captain Cole Carter score, but nothing more would come of the late rally. The Bulldogs took this game 5-1.

On Sunday, the Steelheads settled into Sarnia for a tilt with the Sting.

This time, it was Mississauga's turn to jump out to an early four goal lead in the first period on goals from Thomas Harley, Owen Tippet, Cole Carter and Filip Reisnecker put

them up.

Sarnia would score once, but the stanza ended with Mississauga on top by a comfortable three goals. The second period included two more goals from Cole Carter to give him a hat trick.

The third provided little offense and no goals as Mississauga won, once again moving them to a record of 6-2-1, which is tops in the Central Division.

After playing a total of three times over this past weekend the Steelheads will play next week tomorrow night (Oct. 18) against the North Bay Battalion, Friday (Oct. 19) against the Peterborough Petes and Sunday (Oct. 21) against the Ottawa 67's.



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Bob Knuckey breaks 12 hours in Hawaii Ironman Triathlon

by David Robinson

A truly remarkable gentlemen achieved an incredible feat of athleticism this past Saturday, as he raced the Hawaiian Ironman Triathlon.

70 year-old Bob Knuckey covered the 2.4 mile Pacific Ocean swim, 112 mile cycle and 26.2 mile marathon run in under twelve hours to win his 70-74 age group.

Bob has been a triathlete for many years, having converted from an elite runner. He once outright won the Toronto Marathon. He has completed many big triathlon races all over the world, including Hawaii.

However, he was always a little bit behind the top racers in his group of 65-69 in this race.

The months and years of training paid off for Bob, and the weather cooperated on the day with modest temperatures and low velocity winds.

Patrick Lang of Germany

was the top male finishing the grueling course in 7 hours, 52 minutes. Daniela Ryf of Switzerland won the female event in 8:26:16, lowering her previous best performance by over 20 minutes.

For Mr. Knuckey, known affectionately as uncle Bob to those that are close to him, this event was the toppling off of a very good season of training and racing. A top finish in the Arizona Ironman and several weeks of hot dry training in Tucson made Bob as tough as nails and ready to achieve his best.

In order to be a top triathlete, you have to be exceptional at all three disciplines, but in the final analysis if you want to hang with big dogs and give yourself a chance to win, you have to be a good runner.

That natural ability to run gave Bob the edge on the

day as he overcame his closest competitor, Hermann Hefti of Switzerland.

After the swim, Bob was in fourth, just three minutes back of the leader in his age group. He made up the time on the bike and entered the run in the lead, but only by 4 minutes.

The race for first place and the sub 12-hour record would come down to who could manage their body over 26.2 miles.

Bob slowly built a 12 minute lead and it looked like he would win his age group by the time he got to the 21 mile mark. His pace put him right on 12 hours, however. Sensing the moment, Bob picked up the pace and even captured the attention of a much younger athlete, who paced Bob during the final miles.

Many of Bob's Caledon C3 Club friends who had travelled to Hawaii at their own cost were on hand to cheer

him on over the last few miles.

In the last 400 meters Bob was running an amazing sub 7-minute mile pace. Running that hard at that age took its toll and he collapsed into the barriers

that line Ali Drive heading into the finish line. For a few seconds in looked like the race was over for Bob, but he staggered to his feet unassisted and crossed the finish line officially in 11:55:03.

Bob became the 2018 winner in the 70-74 age group of the Hawaii Ironman Triathlon. Truly one of the best masters athletes in the world in any sport.



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LIFESTYLE / AROUND TOWN

Delicious eats are back during annual Taste of Brampton



Local chefs participating in the 2018 Taste of Clarkson, along with Andrea Magana, Suzy Godefroy and Teagan Pecoskie-Schweir from the Downtown Brampton BIA, pose last week in Garden Square. (Submitted Photo)

One of Brampton's most anticipated - and tasty - events of the year returns this week, as the 2018 edition of Taste of Brampton kicks off with two weeks of delectable eats and mouth-watering treats.

The annual food event, which runs from Oct. 15 - 29, will see restaurants throughout the city showcase some of their signature dishes, through prix-fixe menus to special offerings.

This year's selection includes menus and dishes from a variety of restaurants throughout the city, including Das Brezel Haus, Bucatini Restaurant and Wine Bar, Aria Bistro and Lounge, Dolcezza Custom Cakes, Tracks Brew Pub, Mirch Masala, Segovia Coffee, Fanzorelli's Restaurant and Wine Bar), and The WORKS Gourmet Burger

Bistro, who will all be showcasing a variety of fall-themed dishes including pumpkin-inspired desserts, delicious meat and fish entrees and much, much more.

The annual event presents a dining option for every guest, including the returning favorite sampler plates, which will be featured at a number of restaurants including Fanzorelli's, Bucatini and Carve on Lot 5.

The promotion also offers

a number of discounted items at featured restaurants throughout the city during the two-week period, along with the chance to win one of 25 gift cards (plus a grand prize of \$500 in gift cards) for those who take part by tagging their culinary experiences on Instagram with the #TasteofBrampton tag.

For more information and menus, visit www.atasteofbrampton.ca.



New novel explores history of Alderlea community

by Alex Gregory

It all started with a story passed down from one generation to another.

Lynne Golding's inaugural novel, *The Innocent*, takes readers on a journey back to a time that wasn't so long ago - the early 20th century.

Set in 1907, the new novel, which releases later this month, focuses on Brampton's Alderlea community as seen through the eyes of young Jessie Stephens and her family, who seeks to solve a mystery involving her grandfather and the town's Presbyterian Church.

The decision to write a novel came easily, Golding said in an interview with Peel Weekly News last week, after she spent listening to stories from the real Jessie Stephens - Golding's great-aunt - who told her of what life was like decades before.

"I love history, and I

have Brampton in my bones," said Golding, who lives in the community and spent months researching and documenting the stories from Stephens, which chronicle the first 25 years of her life.

The novel is based in historical fact, and Golding said she spent a lot of time chronicling the places, situations and people that were present in the Alderlea community as part of the research for the book.

"Sometimes the facts got in the way of a good story," she said, noting that she strived for authenticity in the material, with much of the story happening in and around Etobicoke Creek (originally called "Alders").

Relying on resource books and material from the Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA), along with her artifacts from her own

family, Golding said she learned a lot in the course of writing the book.

"I love the writing, and it's definitely improved with practice," she noted, saying that she wrote so much material for the book that it soon surpassed 900 pages. As a result, she plans to release the material as a

series called *Beneath the Alders*.

The book's title also referred to the "innocence of age" the population faced in the years just before World War I, and how there was a lot of conformity in the way people lived.

"The morals were very black-and-white... there was no grey.

"I could always visualize where the characters were... it was easy to write for them," Golding said.

Part of the ease with writing came from her prior work as a lawyer with Fasken in Toronto, she says, and the feedback she's received from the community has been encouraging so far.

Golding notes that she isn't sure what she wants to write after the trilogy, but said if people want her to write more, she'd be happy to.

The *Innocent* will be officially released on Oct. 30.

For more information, visit bluemoonpublishers.com/books-and-authors/the-innocent.



The Alderlea Estate, seen just after its renovation in 2012. (Photo Courtesy of J.J. McGuire Contractors)

Mental Health Month



The Mississauga Civic Centre went deep-purple last week to recognize World Mental Health Day, which is celebrated throughout the country.

Celebrated each year on Oct. 10, the annual advocacy day promotes continued global mental health awareness, education and advocacy. This year's theme recognized youths and mental health in a changing world. Supporters gathered throughout Peel and beyond to help drive awareness and attention to mental illnesses, as well as mental health and mental wellness initiatives. Mental health conditions affect the lives of many around the world daily. There continues to be an increasing need to continue to provide information on coping strategies and information for emotional wellness.

(Photo Courtesy of City of Mississauga)

Pumpkins on full display at Downey's Farm for Halloween

Looking for tons of fun - and thousands of pumpkins?

Downey's Farm is the destination this Halloween, as it hosts the 2018 Pumpkinfest, which runs through Oct. 31 and will see thousands of local residents descend upon Downey's Farm in Caledon to enjoy the spirit of the season and plenty of fun and games.

This year's event will include a wide assortment of activities that are running throughout the week, including wagon rides, farm animal encounters, puppet shows, the "Boo Barn", a sprawling eight-acre Corn Maze with 3 "corny" challenges and live

entertainment, plus duck races, the trike track, Goat Mountain Slide and more!

The farm, which has operated since 1920, houses a farmer's market, with an in-house bakery and an award-winning winery. This year's Pumpkinfest is part of the anniversary celebration for the farm, which is celebrating the 25 anniversary of the Downey's Farm Market.

The farm is a family operation, headed by John and Ruth Downey, and their youngest daughter, Darlene and her husband Nathan. Their oldest son, Greg, grows crops for the farm, and oper-

ates Downey's Strawberry & Apple Farm, sister farm to Downey's. Their other children, Ian, David, and Donna, continue to help out during busy seasons and festivals.

Admission for Pumpkinfest is \$9.29 plus HST for weekday admission, \$13.71 plus HST for weekend and holiday admission and \$61.95 plus HST for a family pack (2 adults and 3 children). Not all activities are available on weekdays.

For more information, visit the Pumpkinfest website at www.downeysfarm.com/downeys-farm-market-pumpkinfest.htm.



PAMA Celebrates 50 Years with Festivities

One of the region's premier museums is celebrating a milestone anniversary early next month with a special celebration.

Peel Art Galley, Museum and Archives (PAMA) will host its 50th anniversary celebration on Nov. 3 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. with a host of activities and special events designed to promote the heritage and history of the museum, which is located at 9 Wellington Street East.

Canada's Centennial celebrations in 1967 inspired people in communities across Canada to research, collect, and discover more about their own local histories.

This led to the opening of many community museums and galleries, including PAMA. Since then, the gallery has grown by leaps and bounds to become one of Peel's most-recognized public archives and museums, offering year-round programs and events that cater to all ages.

The schedule of events happening during the anniversary celebration include:

- Where We're Going and Where We've Been pop-up exhibition (10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

- Archives (Storage tours, pop-up displays and digitized film footage showcase from 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

- Family Fun Creative Clay Activities (10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

- Time Capsule Activity (10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

- PAMA Museum Collects Exhibition, a spotlight on stories and exhibits hosted by the archives (10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

- Historic Courthouse and Jail Tours (every half-hour, starting at 12:30 p.m.)

- Art at PAMA: 50 Years of Collecting (curator conversations, from 1 - 4:30 p.m.)

- Murray Laufer: More than Skin Deep (meet-and-greet with artist at 1 p.m.)

- Henna Art (Get Inked) with Sofia (2 - 4 p.m.)

- Celebratory cupcakes

from Cristina's Tortina Shop (while supplies last)

Additionally, Caring Across Boundaries: A Photography Exhibition will run through Feb. 3, 2019.

The exhibition, which launched last month, is a collaboration between photographer Liam Sharp, champion for First Nations children Cindy Blackstock, and three First Nations communities in Ontario, New Brunswick and British Columbia.

In a visual journey aimed toward reconciliation, Caring Across Boundaries brings awareness to the challenges and dreams of First Nations communities. Reconciliation is based on a better understanding of our shared history and is built on mutual trust, respect, and a genuine commitment to our collective well-being and prosperity.

For more information about the anniversary celebration and the exhibition, visit the PAMA website at pama.peelregion.ca.



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Volunteer opportunities available at Heart House

Residents looking to volunteer for some of the region's most vulnerable residents can find out about upcoming opportunities at an open house hosted by Heart House Hospice next month.

The organization's open house event, which takes place on Friday, Nov. 16, will showcase the benefits of joining others who provide emotional, physical and spiritual support for people living with a life-limiting illness and their loved ones.

Heart House is looking for day program volunteers, in-home, drivers and complementary therapy (training provided).

Residents will have the opportunity to explore the different opportunities,

meet volunteers who currently work at Heart House and chat with staffers at the charitable organization.

The open house will take place at 855 Matheson Blvd East, Unit 1, and runs from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Free parking is also available in front of and around the building from Timberlea Boulevard.

Those interested in attending must email Nancy at numphrey@heart-househospice.com or call (905) 712-8119, ext. 237 by Nov. 12.

Those unable to attend the open house that are interested in becoming a volunteer can also email Kelly McLaughlin at kmclaughlin@heart-househospice.com.



WHAM! ZAP! POW! - Comic Expo returns to Central Library

by Alex Gregory

Aspiring crimefighters and artists are invited to indulge their superhero side as the Mississauga Comic Expo (MCX) returns for its fourth year this weekend at Mississauga Central Library.

Local graphic artists, novelists, creators, designers and developers will descend on the library on Oct. 19 and 20 for a two-day extravaganza of programs and activities for all ages, as part of celebrations for Ontario Public Library Week.

Dress up as your favourite comic book character and enjoy tabletop sessions, an escape room, a board game lounge, video game-play sessions, Jedi-training workshops, artist/comic book writing workshops and many children's activities.

More than 4,000 attendees attended last year's expo, and this year is expected to be even bigger, with a suite of events including a robot petting zoo, sketch challenge, anime marathon, local artists and exhibitors, lots of children's activities and much, much more!

Things kick off on Friday from 4:30 - 8:30 p.m., with a "preview night" featuring

tabletop board games, introduction to Dungeons & Dragons, an escape room and more.

On Saturday (Oct. 20) from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., the expo will host an artist alley, exhibitors, workshops, panels, tabletop board game demos and video game free-

play sessions.

This year's group of panelists and guests include a who's-who of comic talent, including Marvel Comics author Jahnoy Lindsay (*Luke Cage*), *My Little Pony* artist Jay Fosgitt, *Disney Princess* author Megan Kearney, multiple Eisner Award winner

Ramon Perez, Archie Comics/Marvel Comics artist Adam Gorha and more!

Admission is free for both days. For more information, visit the event website at www.facebook.com/MississaugaComicExpo.



Peel recognizes Public Library Week with celebrations



A student works on signs during a program held at Chinguacousy Library this past week. (Photo Courtesy of Brampton Library)

Libraries throughout Peel, along with Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) and their supporters, are celebrating Ontario Public Library Week with the message that great libraries depend on great workers and a variety of celebrations and events designed to promote literacy in the region.

"We're very proud of the relationship we have developed with our patrons in the community. (Residents) love their libraries and their library workers," said CUPE 1989 President Laura Kaminker.

The festivities kicked off on Friday, as library workers and supporters handed out buttons and postcards at the Mississauga Central Library to commemorate the occasion, which runs through this weekend.

Since 1985, Public Library Week has highlighted the vital contributions that public libraries make towards enhancing the quality of life for residents in the communities they serve.

Across the province, CUPE library workers are marking the week with celebrations scheduled in ten different communities.

Along with the Mississauga Comic Expo, Brampton libraries will be celebrating with author events, fun children's programs and this Friday's Tech Fair, which runs from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. and will see students come out to Chinguacousy Public Library (150 Central Park Drive) for a day filled with the newest and most exciting technology.

Admission is free for the event, which takes

place in Program Room 1.

Public Library Week is also an important opportunity to raise awareness about the need to ensure libraries and library workers have the requisite resources and tools to serve their communities, while providing important services and good jobs, said Kaminker.

"Libraries provide a vital service in our communities - having a library close by can turn your neighbourhood from a good place to live to a great place to live. We proudly help to make libraries public spaces that welcome any and all."

"The key ingredient to offering great library service is the people who work in them, and so we are paying tribute to library workers in Ontario," she said.

Local resident honors WWI hero at national ceremony

by Alex Gregory

A Mississauga resident is heading to the East Coast this weekend to honor her grandfather - the youngest combat recipient of the Victoria Cross.

Ward 1 community advocate Catherine Soplet, who hails from Newfoundland, will be traveling to the province to honor Pte. Thomas Ricketts, who fought with the Royal Newfoundland Regiment during World War I.

"I am the eldest grandchild, and I am privileged and proud to be invited to attend this event," said Soplet, who helped a committee in Newfoundland develop the Kiwanis Ricketts Memorial Peace Park project in its advocacy to be approved for legacy program funding from Canadian Heritage.

Nearly \$1 million in matching funding will also be invested to open a facility that promotes youth development and legacy education for Newfoundland's role in WWI.

The Victoria Cross is one of the rarest medals in the world and the highest mil-

itary honour awarded by the United Kingdom. At 17, Ricketts became the youngest recipient of the Cross, and the only member of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment recognized with the highest military honour in the British Commonwealth.

Upon return to civilian life, Ricketts began his education at Bishop Field College in St. John's, NL. As a decorated hero, he took on a leadership role in "Company C" of Anglican Church Lads Brigade. Later in life, Ricketts was instrumental to establish CLB companies in fishing villages of Conception Bay South.

Ricketts completed his pharmacist apprenticeship at age 30 and opened his drug store business across from the St. John's railway station.

"He was known to be shy and kind, to help ill people and let children read comic books in his store," said Soplet, who said that her love of volunteerism and community support were inspired by Ricketts' experiences.

Following his state funeral provide by the NL government, Ricketts' headstone was engraved with the CLB motto: "Fight the good fight".

In 2003, the Ricketts medals were donated by the family to the permanent collection of the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

The 100-year military observance since the battle that ended World War 1 kicks off the final phase of the development of the Memorial Peace Park.

The completion of the Peace Park targets July 1, 2019 for unveiling of a bronze statue of the child soldier Tommy Ricketts.

The date coincides with 100-years of Ricketts' de-commission from active duty, Memorial Day observances for the decimation of Royal Newfoundland Regiment at Beaumont Hamel, and Canada Day.

Seamus O'Regan, the Minister of Veterans' Affairs, will attend, together with other provincial and civic dignitaries.

At the ceremony, a bronze plaque will be un-

veiled on park trails connecting Kiwanis Park to the adjacent Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 50 (Conception Bay South).

Kiwanis Park land was previously owned by Ricketts, and he was one of the founding members of Branch 50.

The ceremony will also commemorate all those who fought with Royal Newfoundland Regiment in World War 1.



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